Eur päisches Pat ntamt
European Patent Office
Office européen d s brevets



(11) EP 1 014 334 A3

(12)

### **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3: 02.10.2002 Bulletin 2002/40

(51) Int Cl.7: G09G 3/36

(43) Date of publication A2: 28.06.2000 Bulletin 2000/26

(21) Application number: 99403241.5

(22) Date of filing: 21.12.1999

(84) Designated Contracting States:

AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE

**Designated Extension States:** 

**AL LT LV MK RO SI** 

(30) Priority: 21.12.1998 JP 36228398

01.02.1999 JP 2338399 01.02.1999 JP 2338499 01.02.1999 JP 2338299 21.10.1999 JP 29918899 (71) Applicant: SONY CORPORATION Tokyo (JP)

(72) Inventors:

- Nakajima, Yoshiharu, Sony Corporation Tokyo (JP)
- Maekawa, Toshikazu, Sony Corporation Tokyo (JP)
- (74) Representative: Thévenet, Jean-Bruno et al Cabinet Beau de Loménie
   158, rue de l'Université
   75340 Paris Cédex 07 (FR)

## (54) Data driver comprising a digital/analog converter for a liquid crystal display device

(57)A drive circuit (12, 13) integrated with the LCD device containing a digital/analog converter circuit (125, 135) has polysilicon thin film transistors arrayed in a matrix on the substrate as switching devices for the pixels. A level shift circuit (124, 134) in the shift register has a basic structure of CMOS latch cells and is utilized in each level shift of the clock signal at each transfer stage. A sampling latch circuit (122, 132) with a basic structure of CMOS latch cells has a level shift function. These respective circuits may be incorporated into a single scanning type structural circuit with the drive circuit-integrated liquid crystal display device to provide an LCD panel with an extremely narrow picture frame, stable level shift operation, stable sampling & latch operation in a circuit structure having an extremely small number of components, low power consumption and a small surface area.

F I G. 1 (HORIZONTAL TRANSFER PULSE 1) HORIZONTAL HST1, HCK1 SAMPLING B DIGITAL DATA 123 COND LATCH LATCH SIGNAL 124 REFERENCE VOLTAGE (2" STEP PORTION) 125 DAC 11 VST ,VCK (VERTICAL VERTICAL EFFECTIVE PIXEL AREA SHIFT REGISTER TRANSFER 41 135 DAC 134 LEVEL SHIFTER 133 SECOND LATCH DIGITAL DATA HORIZONTAL SHIFT REGISTER HST2,HCK2 (HORIZONTAL TRANSFER PULSE 2) 13

EP 1 014 334 A3



# **EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number

EP 99 40 3241

Category	Citation of document with i	PERED TO BE RELEVANT Indication, where appropriate.	Relevant	CI ACCIDICATION OF THE
- are don't	of relevant pass	to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.CI.7)	
X	US 5 818 406 A (TSL 6 October 1998 (199 * column 7, line 4	1-4	G09G3/36	
A	US 5 828 357 A (TAM 27 October 1998 (19 * column 14, line 5 figures 5,21 *	1,4		
A	EP 0 515 191 A (SHA 25 November 1992 (1 * figure 52 *	1,4		
X	WO 98 28731 A (CIRR 2 July 1998 (1998-0 * figure 3A *		1,4	
Α	DE 43 31 542 A (MIT 24 March 1994 (1994 * page 2 *	17,26	Walnut -	
A	EP 0 438 927 A (TOK 31 July 1991 (1991- * column 20, line 2	17,26	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEAFCHED (Int.Cl.7)	
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF vol. 018, no. 350 ( 30 June 1994 (1994- & JP 06 090161 A (H	34-37, 41-44		
Υ	29 March 1994 (1994 * abstract *	-03-29)	46,47,	
			51,52	
		-/		
·				
	The present search report has	been drawn up for all claims		
	Place of search	Date of completion of the search	1	Examiner
	THE HAGUE	3 June 2002	Lan	ge, J
X : parti Y : parti docu A : tech O : non-	ATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS icularly relevant if taken alone cularly relevant if combined with anot ment of the same category notogical background -written disclosure: mediate document	E : earlier patent doc after the tiling dat her D : document cited is 1 : document cited is	e underlying the sument, but public en the application or other reasons	invention shed an, or



Application Number

EP 99 40 3241

CLAIMS INCURRING FEES
The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.
Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report to been drawn up for the first ten claims.
LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:
see sheet B
All turther search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report been drawn up for all claims.
As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Divis did not invite payment of any additional fee.
Only part of the further search tees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The season Survey
None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European sea report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inverfirst mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



## **EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number EP 99 40 3241

ategory	Citation of document with i of relevant pass	ndication, where appropriate, sages		lelevanı o claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.CI.7)	
1	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF vol. 012, no. 330 ( 7 September 1988 (1 & JP 63 093219 A (F 23 April 1988 (1988 * abstract *	E-655), 1988-09-07) UJI ELECTRIC),	34	, 41		
	US 5 680 064 A (MAS 21 October 1997 (19 * column 31, line 1 & JP 06 283980 A (F 7 October 1994 (199	97-10-21) 4 - line 52 * UJITSU ET AL.)		,47, ,52		
	US 5 457 420 A (ASA 10 October 1995 (19 * column 6 * & JP 06 283979 A (N 7 October 1994 (199	95-10-10) IEC)		, <b>4</b> 7, ,52		
					TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)	
	The present search report has	been drawn up for all claims			·):	
	Place of search	Date of completion of the searc	ži.		Examinor	
THE HAGUE 3 J		3 June 2002	ne 2002 Lar		nge, J	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS  T: Illieury or pri E: earlier pater X: particularly relevant it taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another Cocument of the same category L: document of			nt diocume ng diate :itled in the	nciple underlying the invention I document, but published on, or		

A : member of the same patent family, corresponding document



# LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION SHEET B

Application Number

EP 99 40 3241

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-16

decoder for D/A converter

2. Claims: 17-33

level shifter using voltage divider and having CMOS latch cell as basic structure

3. Claims: 34-45

sampling latch switching off power supply during sampling and on during latching

4. Claims: 46-53

latch using two different power supply voltages during latching and output operation  $% \left( 1\right) =\left\{ 1\right\}$ 

### ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 99 40 3241

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

03-06-2002

	Patent documen cited in search rep		Publication date		Patent iam member(s		Publication date
US	5818406	A	06-10-1998	JP	2715943	B2	18-02-1998
				JΡ	8160916		21-06-1996
				KR	183487		15-04-1999
	E010157		07.10.1000				
us	5828357	Α	27-10-1998	JP	9319343		12-12-1997
				KR	185686		15-04-1999
				TW 	389881 	<del></del> -	11-05-2000
EΡ	0515191	Α	25-11-1992	DE	69226723		01-10-1998
				DE	69226723		15-04-1999
				EP	0515191		25-11-1992
				JP	6027900		04-02-1994
			•	JP	7007248	_	30-01-1995
				KR	9608104		19-06-1996
				US 	5583531 	A 	10-12-1996
WO	9828731	Α	02-07-1998	WO	9828731	A2	02-07-1998
DE	4331542	Α	24-03-1994	JP	6104704	A	15-04-1994
				DE	4331542	A1	24-03-1994
				KR	130744		01-10-1998
				US	5617045	Α	01-04-1997
ΕP	0438927	Α	31-07-1991	DE	69029933	D1	27-03-1997
				DE	69029933	_	14-08-1997
		•		DE	69033468		30-03-2000
				DE	69033468		03-08-2000
				EP	0438927		31-07-1991
				EP	0741391	—	06-11-1996
				JP	4212794		04-08-1992
				KR	9402810		02-04-1994
				US	5376841		27-12-1994
				US US	5343089 5162670		30-08-1994 10-11-1992
JP	06090161	Α	29-03-1994	NONE			
JP	63093219		23-04-1988	JP	2083685		23-08-1996
		• •	20 0. 1900	ĴΡ	7095680	-	11-10-1995
LLS	5680064	A	21-10-1997	 JP	6283980	Δ	07_10_1004
υS	2000004	^	71 10-133/	KR	156601		07-10-1994 15-12-1998
					130001		12-12-1998
บร	5457420	A	10-10-1995	JP	2028607	-	19-03-1996
				JP	6283979		07-10-1994
				JP	7067068	H	19-07-1995

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

### EP 1 014 334 A3

### ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 99 40 3241

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

03-06-2002

Patent document cited in search report		Publication Patent for date member		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5457420	Ą		JP JP	6318858 A 8015256 B	15-11-1994 14-02-1996
<del></del>					
				•	
<u></u>					

For more details about this annex; see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

# THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)